

MEMORANDUM FOR: **THE DIRECTOR**

Obviously there is room for debate on the extent of the authority of the Executive Branch in covert action, but the views in the attached memorandum have substantial backing in law and are largely supported by such authorities as Mr. Edward S. Corwin in his 1957 book **THE PRESIDENT OFFICE AND POWERS**. Also, I have discussed this paper with Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, Justice, and his staff, and they are in agreement and are working with us on further research.

*s/ Lawrence R. Houston*  
**LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON**  
General Counsel

15 January 1962  
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101  
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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